As regards the Andhra Pradesh Labour Welfare Fund Bill, 1986, it was received on 17.9.86 and is engaging the attending of the Government of India, and is likely to be finalised soon.

India's exports

1754. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's exports have improved during 1986-87 as reported in the Hindu of the 30th May, 1987; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that exports have improved largely due to exports of fruits and vegetables, meat, marine and fish products, all of which are essential protective foods already in short supply especially for the vulnerable groups;

(c) whether higher exports are also due to the export of animal feeds which are again in short supply leading to gift imports of milk products even with the attendant danger of radioactivity; and

(d) whether a rational national policy will be evolved in regard to exports as even small exports of the above items have a spiralling effect on the consumer prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) According to the provisional data, India's exports during 1986-87 amounted to Rs. 12550.06 crores as compared to Rs. 10420.37 crores during 1985-86, thereby registering a growth of 20.4 per cent.

(b) The exports of Fruits and Vegetables declined from Rs. 175 crores during 1985-86 to Rs. 146 crores during 1986-87. The exports of meat and meat products increased from Rs. 72 crores during 1985-86 to Rs. 76 crores during 1986-87. The export of Marine products increased from Rs. 388 crores during 1985-86 to Rs. 477 crores during 1986-87. These items put together have accounted only for an increase of Rs. 65 crores out of a total increase of Rs. 2130 crores in India's exports during 1986-87 as compared to 1985-86. In terms of domestic availability, the exports of these items constitute a very small percentage which will not substantially affect availability of these items in the domestic market.

(c) The exports of oil cakes showed a substantial improvement during 1986-87 largely on account of higher off-take of soyameal extraction. The animal husbandry practices presently being followed in most parts of the country and the cost of purchasing animal feeds which has become a determent has resulted in generating exportable surplus of oil meals in the country. The exports of oil meals are not, therefore, being conducted at the cost of domestic availability. The exports of oil meals are also not in any way related to the gift import of milk products.

(d) The exports of items are permitted keeping into view the aspects of domestic availability and internal prices of various commodities of mass consumpton. The Export Policy is framed only after visualising the quantum of exportable surplus available in each commodity. The Export Policy of price sensitive items such as onions etc. is also controlled with a view to ensuring that domestic consumers do not suffer on account of exports. The Policy is also reviewed from time to time to ensure that necessary changes are made if required keeping in view the interest of domestic consumers.

Closure of Sriram Rayon's Kota plant

1755. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sriram Rayon has finally applied to the Government of

Rajasthan for shutting down their Kota plant;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the number of labourers who are likely to be affected as a result thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to take any action to safeguard the interests of the workers and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) According to Government of Rajasthan, the appropriate authority in this case, the management of Sriram Rayons, Kota had submitted an application on 9-3-1987 under section 25(0) of the A.D. Act, 1947 seeking permission of the State Government to close down the establishment mainly for reasons of obsolete technology and labour unrest. The application for closure was considered and rejected by the State Government by an order passed on 7.5.87. On 21.5.87, the management made a further application seeking reference of the issue relating to closure to the Tribunal for adjudication. The matter is under the consideration of the State Government. The closure if permitted, is likely to affect 1539 workers.

(d) Does not arise.

Landing of Indian Sikhs in Canada

1756. SHRI P. M. SUKUL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 174 Indian Sikhs had landed at Charlesville in Canada by boat and that they had reportedly left India on the 20th May last; and

(b) if so, what are the circumstances under which these Sikhs could leave the country in an unauthorised manner and their escape could not be detected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) According to information available 174 persons, most of whom were sikhs had landed at Charlesville by boat on July 12, 1987. The group included 4 Pakistanis and Turkish woman. Enquiries have not established that they left India on May 20, 1987, as claimed by them. The Canadian investigators have on the other hand established that the ship by which they travelled had set sail from Rotterdam in Holland.

विदेशी पादरियों को भारत छोड़ने का आदेश

1757. **श्री अश्विनी कुमार :** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिल्ली से प्रकाशित होने वाले दिनांक 13 जुलाई, 1987 के "जनसत्ता" में "तीन विदेशी पादरियों को भारत छोड़ने का आदेश" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) उन विदेशी पादरियों के नाम तथा उनकी राष्ट्रीयता क्या है जिनके संबंध में बिहार और मध्य प्रदेश की राज्य सरकारों ने उनके क्रिया-कलापों को देश के लिये खतरनाक समझकर उन्हें देश से निष्कासित करने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार से सिफारिश की है ; और

(ग) इनमें से उन पादरियों के नाम क्या हैं जिन्हें राज्य सरकारों द्वारा उनके निष्कासन की सिफारिश किये जाने के बावजूद केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा उन्हें भारत में निश्चित अवधि के समाप्त हो जाने के बाद कुछ और समय के लिए रहने की अनुमति प्रदान की गई और उनकी यह अवधि और कितने समय के लिये बढ़ाई गई ?

कार्मिक लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम्) : (क) जी, हां, श्रीमान ।